

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

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Docket No.: 09864/0202080-US0

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title as follows:

SLIDING COMPONENT AND METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Following the title, please insert the following paragraphs:

Cross-Reference to Prior Application

This is a U.S. National Phase application under 35 U.S.C. §371 of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2003/009862 filed August 4, 2003, and claims the benefit of Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-249692 filed August 28, 2002 both of which are incorporated by reference herein. The International Application was published in Japanese on March 11, 2004 as WO 2004/020129 A1 under PCT Article 21(2).

Please replace the paragraph starting from page 4, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

—In order to attain the above objects, there is provided a method for manufacturing a sliding component according to another aspect of the present invention, including the steps of filling an iron-based material powder and a copper-based material powder in a filling portion of a mold; compacting the iron- and copper-based material powders so as to form a green compact; and sintering the green compact, wherein the copper-based material powder contains flat powder particles of copper or copper alloy; an average value of maximum projected areas of the flat powder particles is larger than that of maximum projected areas of the particles of the iron-based material powder; and the flat powder particles in the filling portion are allowed to segregate on the surface of the green compact.—

Please replace the paragraph starting from page 6, line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

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—First, a method for manufacturing a sliding component according to an embodiment of the present invention will now be explained. An iron-based material powder 1, a copper-based material powder 2 and a small amount of an other material powder 3 are mixed as materials in a predetermined proportion (Step S1). For the iron-based material powder 1, a powder composed of substantially spherical and irregular particles such as atomized powder is used as shown in FIG. 2. For the copper-based material powder 2, an irregular-particle powder 2A and a flat powder particles 2B are used as shown in FIGs. 2, 3A and 3B.—

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